

**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Guidance for Wildlife Rehabilitation Facilities
on Submitting Wildlife for Necropsy**



Selected wild animals which die while under wildlife rehabilitation care should be submitted to WDNR Wildlife Health for necropsy, based on WDNR current disease surveillance priorities:

- All eagles, trumpeter swans, ospreys, peregrine falcons, and loons, as part of ongoing research on disease/contaminant issues for these species of special concern.
- During the WNV season (May-Oct), species with a working diagnosis of WNV that die, and are listed below for 2006 WNV surveillance, will be accepted for tissue sampling to confirm WNV.
- For 2006 avian influenza surveillance, any of the AI target species listed below or any bird from a significant and unexpected bird mortality event (which means where > 5 birds die in a small area over a small period of time).

Other species may be submitted for necropsy on a case by case basis, but only with prior approval from Wildlife Health. Cases will be chosen based on indications that they will help us understand an unusual morbidity/mortality event or will contribute to our overall knowledge of a species' population health risks.

Carcasses for necropsy must be in good condition. They can be refrigerated if they will be delivered to Wildlife Health within 3 days, otherwise, they must be frozen right away and kept frozen until delivered to Wildlife Health.

Animals that have been in rehab for more than 5 days will generally not be acceptable for necropsy. The value of necropsy to understanding the animal's original health problem declines the longer the animal has been undergoing treatment or supportive therapy.

For questions or approval of a necropsy submission, please contact: Nancy Businga at Nancy.Businga@dnr.state.wi.us or 608-221-5375. Necropsies will be performed as the schedule permits. Final necropsy reports will be shared with the submitter.

2006 WNV surveillance species

Northern cardinal
Sandhill crane
Whooping crane
Rails
Raptors
Loons
Cormorants
Shorebirds (plovers, sandpipers, etc.)
Bats
Gray squirrels

2006 Avian Influenza surveillance species

Shorebirds (plovers, sandpipers, etc.)
Pintails
Green-winged teal
Greater scaup
Lesser scaup
Swans

**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Necropsy Submission Form for Wildlife Rehabilitation Facilities**

Rehabilitation Facility Data

Name/Facility Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

For WDNR use only

Case #:

Animal History Data

Species:

Date found:

County where found:

Location description: (be as specific as possible)

Facility ID#:

Existing bands/tags:

Rehabilitation Data

Date admitted:

Signs noted upon admittance: (include brief description, physical and behavioral, or attach copy of record)

Working Diagnosis:

Date died or euthanized:

Method of euthanasia:

Diagnostics

Lab tests and results: (list or attach copies of reports)

Were radiographs taken? YES _____ NO _____

If YES, describe findings.

Treatments (list each medication given, dose, number of days, and date of last administration or attach copy of treatment records)Additional Comments